

Message Text

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47

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCCT-01 SCS-03 SCA-01 CU-02

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /071 W

----- 044540

P R 141120Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3096

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 5228

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC PINS (SMUTS, BARBARA), (SMITH, KENNETH STEVEN),
(HUNTER, CARRIE)

SUBJECT: KIDNAPPED AMERICANS: VERHAGEN

REF: STATE 139330

1. IT IS NOT CLEAR TO ME EXACTLY WHAT BENOIT VERHAGEN
WOULD DO AND I TEND TO SHARE DAR'S RESERVATIONS ABOUT
PUTTING MORE PEOPLE INTO THE ACT. WE KNOW LITTLE ABOUT
VERHAGEN DIRECTLY BUT I HAVE TALKED WITH JIM COLEMAN OF
THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION WHO HAS KNOWN HIM FOR 15
YEARS. COLEMAN SAYS VERHAGEN IS ONE OF TWO BELGIAN
PROFESSORS WHO HAS CLOSE TIES WITH MOBUTU AND WHOM
MOBUTU TRUSTS. THUS, IF THERE WERE CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD
ROLE, VERHAGEN MIGHT INDEED BE USEFUL. WERE WE EVER
TO GET INDICATION, WHICH SEEMS UNLIKELY,
THAT PRP WOULD REALLY LIKE TO BE REINTEGRATED INTO
ZAIRIAN SOCIETY, VERHAGEN MIGHT BE EXCELLENT GO-
BETWEEN, BUT AT THIS POINT I DON'T FATHOM HOW HE
COULD MAKE CONTACT ANY EASIER THAN OTHER INTERMEDIARIES
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WE ARE WORKING WITH. HOWEVER, HIS UNIQUE ADVANTAGE OF

APPARENTLY HAVING MOBUTU'S CONFIDENCE AS WELL AS CONTACTS
ON LEFT MEANS HE SHOULD BE CERTAINLY KEPT IN MIND FOR
POSSIBLE USE AS SITUATION EVOLVES.
HINTON

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Message Attributes

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